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Kirkman Nurseries
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Incorporated

NEW FRUITS

For Free Trial Distribution



In the variety, extent and possibilities for fruit production, California occupies an unique position among fruit sections of the world. Climatic and market conditions are so different here, that it has been imperative that varieties be originated here that are adapted to our conditions.

Already this work has gone far.

Our four leading Almond varieties, Nonpareil, Drake, Ne Plus Ultra and IXL originated many years ago by Mr. Hatch of Suisun, have proven superior under our conditions to varieties imported from older almond regions.

All our leading clings, viz.: Tuscan, Peake, Paloro, Libbee, Sellers, Sims, and Phillips have originated here, being selections from chance seedlings appearing in peach orchards. For drying, the Lovell and Muir are natives that have gradually almost entirely displaced the imported kinds. The Elberta is the only widely grown peach that has been brought in from elsewhere.

The remarkable work of Luther Burbank in creating such plum varieties as Beauty, Formosa, Gaviota, Climax, Santa Rosa, Burbank, Duarte, Wickson, Sugar, besides numerous others, has given California the leading place in the production of this fruit.

In cherries, five of the seven leading varieties, viz.: Bing, Lambert, Republican, Chapman and Burbank have originated on the Pacific Slope. The Napoleon (Royal Ann) and Black Tartarian were introduced from Europe.

In all needed varieties, the possibilities for fruit improvement are very great and the work to this date is just a beginning. Some of the leading agencies engaged in this work at the present time are:

Luther Burbank.

**U. S. Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Induction.
University of California, College of Agriculture.**

Millard Sharpe.

A. E. Etter.

It has always been an extremely difficult matter to get new varieties tested out in all important fruit regions of the State and until that is done it is impossible to know accurately the value of any variety. Performance in any one section is a very inadequate criterion as to what a variety will do under other conditions. The public has too often been asked to plant new varieties, with the most glowing assurances of superiority, by the promoter, but leading only to disappointment and loss.

We have therefore decided to inaugurate a new policy for testing out fruits and recompensing fruit breeders. Each year we propose sending out a few of the seemingly most promising new varieties of fruits to growers in each fruit section of the State gratis and asking that they report back to us on their future performance.

For all trees that are propagated for sale by us, we propose paying a small royalty to the originator for all buds that may be used in the future during the lifetime of the originator.

This year we will send one June budded tree each of the following varieties to any fruit grower for testing purposes, on application, as long as our rather limited supply lasts:

El Dorado Plum—Originated by Burbank.

Conquest Prune—Originated by Burbank.

Becky Smith Plum—Originated by Millard Sharpe, Vacaville.

Lippiate Late Orange Nectarine—Introduced by U. S. D. A.

Nectarine-Peach Hybrid—U. S. D. A.

Coates 1418 Prune—Introduced by Leonard Coates.

**University Farm Almond 8-28 and 8-29—Originated by
Division of Pomology, University of Calif.**

McKinley Apricot—A chance seedling—Fresno.

**Guame Peach—Chance seedling by Supt. Guame of Libby
Cannery, Gridley.**

Harris Peach—Chance seedling by Mr. D. B. Harris, Madera.

We recommend that this list be planted as part of the home orchard, so that opportunity for observation will be the best. They are varieties of promise for commercial purposes but should be fairly satisfactory for home use.

The following are brief descriptions:

EL DORADO—Described by Mr. Burbank as follows: "A black plum which the East has been calling for, of very large size, unique tomato shape, a never failing producer of a full crop of fruit during the last fifteen years. The trees are exceedingly vigorous and fruit so covered with large leaves that birds do not trouble them. The fruit is the best keeper of all known plums as far as I know, and is of most excellent quality with a small pit. I know of no fault of tree or fruit. It was made to order from a number of fruit shippers. Not excelled except by Santa Rosa."

CONQUEST PRUNE—(Stoneless). Mr. Burbank's description: "Fruit exactly like the French but a little larger and in any series of ten years will bear at least double what the French prune does. Meantime the tree grows much more rapidly and is more vigorous, productive, and in every way more desirable. Ripens with the French, very firm and sweet. It has two objections, one is that the fruit of course shrinks more, not having a stone, than the common prune; the other is that it sometimes has a little piece of stone in the fruit."

BECKY SMITH—A large red plum ripening very late in the season. The most promising of a large number of plums created or introduced for testing by Millard Sharpe of Vacaville. Promises to become the standard late red shipping Japanese plum.

LIPPIATE LATE ORANGE NECTARINE—A large, late nectarine introduced by the Bureau of Plant Introduction and tested out at the Chico Gardens. Highly recommended by Mr. Morrow, Superintendent of the Gardens.

NECTARINE PEACH HYBRID—Cross made in the spring of 1915, and described by J. E. Morrow of the United States Plant Garden: The fruit of this tree is a strawberry cling of high flavor and splendid appearance. When fully matured the skin is a cream yellow with red cheeks and very pubescent. Stem cavity is fairly deep, medium size. Suture quite distinct and extending almost entirely around the fruit. The pit is of medium size, red in color, staining the flesh which is light in color, very sweet and of good quality. The X is S. P. I. 36126 Bolivian cling X with Quetta nectarine S. P. I. 34684.

COATES 1418 PRUNE—Advertised as "The Best Prune Possible," also as "Date Prune." Very large with high sugar content. Productivity not yet established. May be more satisfactory for drying in evaporators than in the sun.

UNIVERSITY FARM ALMONDS 8/28—8/29—Both are Reams and California Paper Shell Crosses, made by the Division of Pomology of the University of California. While the original trees at Davis are only five years old, and it is too early to be certain, these varieties look promising in contrast with our present leading varieties, whose greatest fault is shyness in bearing.

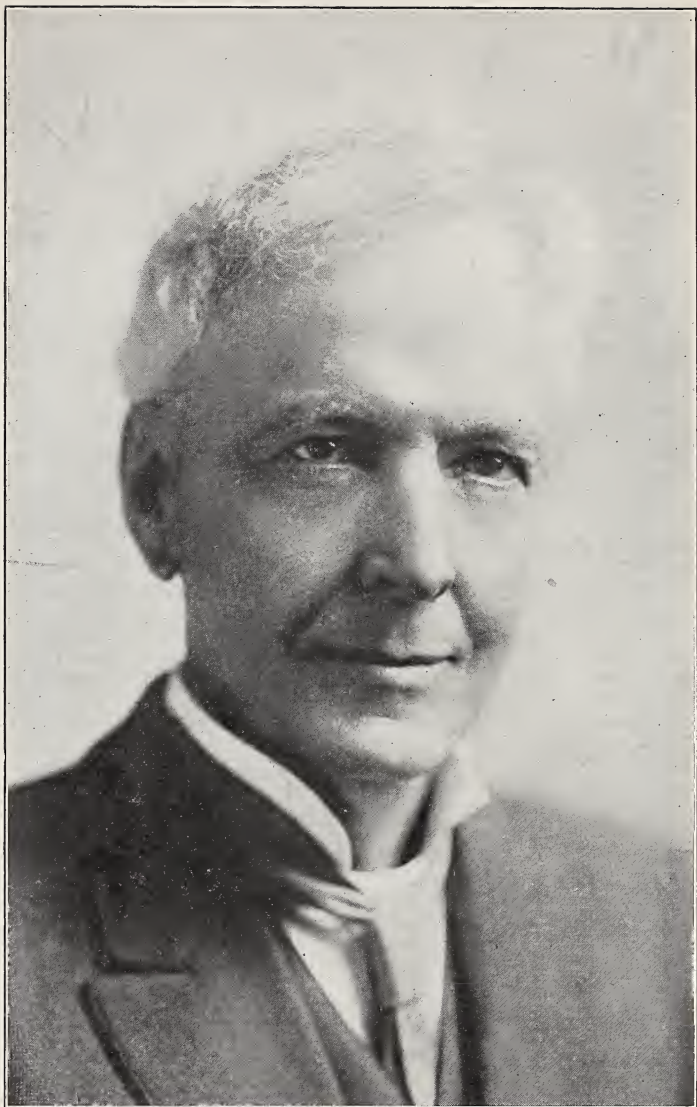
GUAME PEACH—Recommended by the Cannerymen's League as one of the seven most desirable canning peaches. In order that it may have a very extensive trial immediately, we are including it in this list.

HARRIS CLING—Original tree found in D. B. Harris' Lovell Orchard at Madera resembles the Peak and Paloro very closely in tree and fruit, but ripens with the Lovell. Very promising as a Commercial Variety between Peaks-Paloro, Sims and Phillips.

McKINLEY APRICOT—A variety of the Blenheim Type, originating near Fresno. Ripens just before the Tilton. Very large, firm; a perfect freestone of excellent quality. Tree very vigorous, and gives some promise, because of its larger size, of replacing the Royal-Blenheim.

MAIL APPLICATIONS FOR THESE FREE-TRIAL ASSORTMENTS TO KIRKMAN NURSERIES, FRESNO, CALIF.

Member of Nurseryman's Bud Selection Association of California, Inc.



LUTHER BURBANK

Mr. Burbank has the following to say of our plan to thoroughly try out new prospective valuable varieties before endeavoring to market them to our customers:

"This is all in the right direction, and we owe you much for this plan for benefiting the whole Fruit Industry of the State. You are, in my opinion, doing a great work for the State of California in sending out promising new varieties of fruits for tests. Every Californian now and in the future, will be benefited by this test, and the Fruit Industry built up on a solid basis."

In forwarding to us a shipment of budwood for propagating for this trial distribution he writes in part: *"I cut and trimmed and packed all this wood myself and guarantee every bud of it to be absolutely correct, from the original tree."*

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) **LUTHER BURBANK.**